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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Handforth, et al. Examiner: C. Tran  
Serial No.: 09/213,271 Art Unit: 2644  
Filed: 12/17/1998 Attorney Docket No.: NN-RO3951  
Title: VOLTAGE AND CURRENT PROTECTION ARRANGEMENT FOR A  
TELEPHONE SUBSCRIBER LINE INTERFACE CIRCUIT

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document, along with any other papers referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8, and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 20, 2002.

*John C. Gorecki*  
John C. Gorecki, Reg. No. 38,471

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

REPLY

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 21, 2002, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please substitute claims 1, 11, and 16 for the pending claims with the same numbers:

--1. (Amended) A protection arrangement for a line circuit, comprising:

current sensing means for sensing current flowing through the telephone subscriber line;

line circuit isolation means for selectively coupling the line circuit to the telephone subscriber line;

isolation means for selectively coupling a power supply to the line circuit; and

control means for operating the isolation means to decouple the power supply from the line circuit in response to a current sensed by the current sensing means exceeding a current